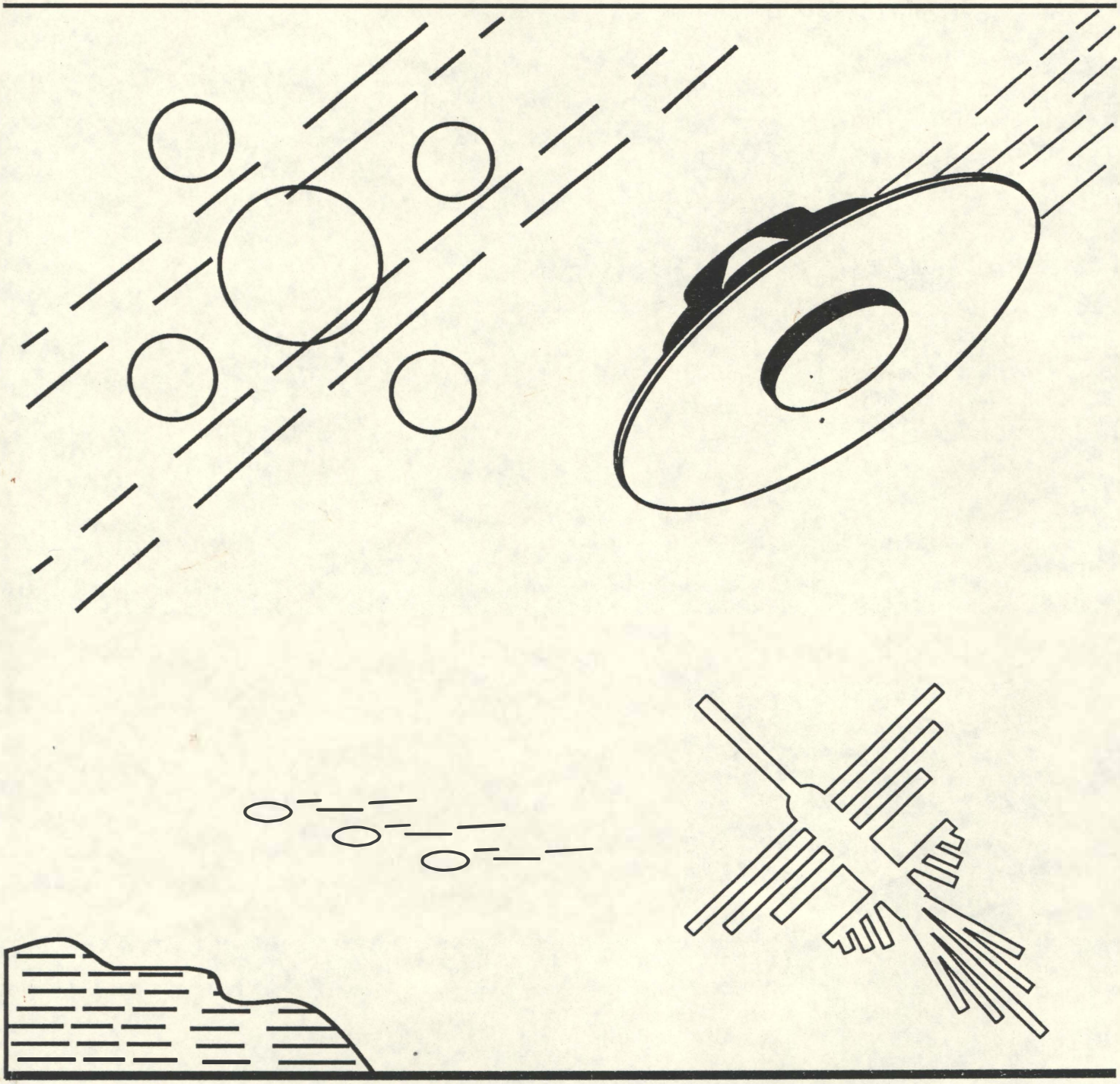
APRIL < OVNI > 1995



Newsletter of the Phenomenon Research Association
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PHENOMENON RESEARCH ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER: APRIL 1995

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PHENOMENON RESEARCH ASSOCIATION CRACK THE ILKESTON UFO MYSTERY

The strange lights reported on the night of Monday 20th March, circling over Ilkeston, Derbyshire, for five hours have now been identified by the PRA after an intensive investigation of the incident.

Witnesses reported a huge silent object, carrying a variety of lights, passing low over the town and local countryside every twelve minutes. Several witnesses were disturbed by what they saw and in one instance a woman ran to see her local pastor.

After assessing the information given by a number of trained observers, including a policeman with twenty two years service, the PRA concluded that the object was in fact a low flying aircraft.

This fact was confirmed later when a member of the Mc Kinnon Clarke Company telephoned to say that the aerial object was a Rockwell Aerocommander survey aircraft, powered by two turbo-prop engines particularly suited for night flying work because of their low noise emission.

During the night survey work, carried out on behalf of the Nottingham City Council and using thermal imaging equipment, the aircraft flew at a height of 2,000ft.

The flight commenced at 8pm on the night of Monday 20th March and finished at 2am the following morning. During this exercise, one refuelling stop was made at the East Midlands Airport.

The night survey aircraft flew along a predetermined path using 300 metre centre lines. This involved the aircraft turning over the Ilkeston area to commence each new run along the survey path. This fact accounted for the regular passing overhead of the mysterious lights.

The identification of this one event does not detract from the fact that there has been widespread UFO activity over the Derbyshire area in recent weeks. A number of new reports are carried in this month's OVNI.

Triangle Sightings Continue

One of the problems in editing our newsletter is deciding what to include and what to dispense with. The main purpose of the newsletter is to keep members informed of local and to a certain extent world-wide developments in the UFO field.

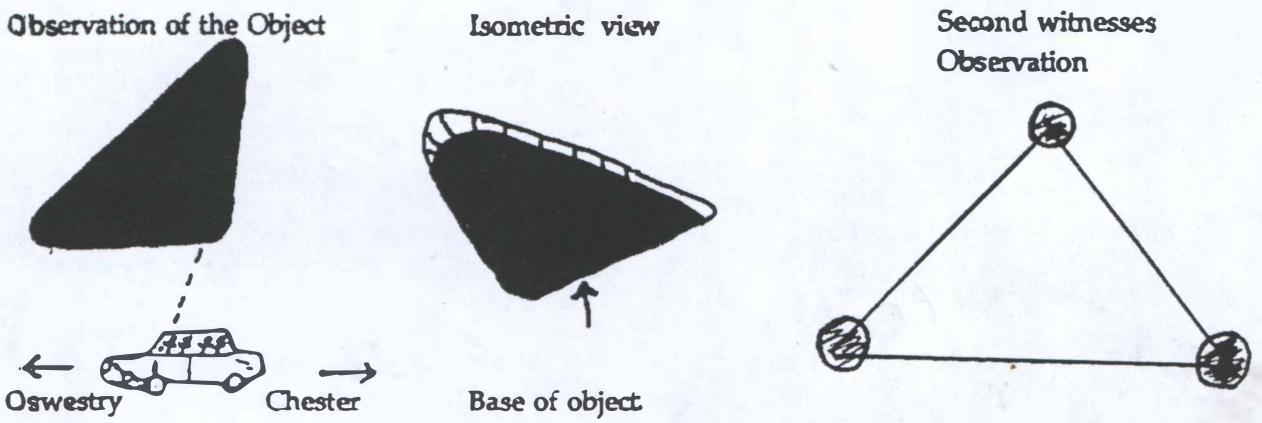
The Flying Triangles are a typical example of the problem. They are becoming so widespread Nationally and Internationally that the strict editing of incidents has become necessary, while at the same time presenting an overall view of the situation.

We have recently been in discussion with the British UFO Studies Centre (Winsford, Cheshire) with a view to exchanging information. The following article has been condensed from their first exchange magazine, which incidentally is full of excellent articles, well presented.

TRIANGULAR SHAPED OBJECT IN THE NEW 'WELSH TRIANGLE'
By Eric Morris

On the 2nd November 1994 four people were travelling from Chester to Oswestry on the A483. They were near Gresford sometime between 11.30pm and midnight when they noticed a light in the sky, as they came closer they made out the shape of a triangle against the dark sky. As they drove underneath the object they realised that it was travelling slowly, making no sound that could be heard from within the car.

The object was estimated to be only 50ft above the road and the witnesses lowered the car windows in order to have a better view. The object moved slowly and irregularly (a stop-go motion has been reported by a Derby witness). The lights on the Triangle were steady and the size was described as being about that of a tennis ball at arms length.



A CLOSE ENCOUNTER NEAR MATLOCK, DERBYS.

We are indebted to the witness Mr Mark Cheetham of Alfreton, for permission to report this incident in full. (Case 95/30)

On the 26th February 1995 at about 9.40pm, my girlfriend and I were travelling from Matlock towards Moorwood Moor near Southingfield, Derbyshire. It was then that my girlfriend noticed some lights in the sky about a mile away, which she at first thought was a plane.

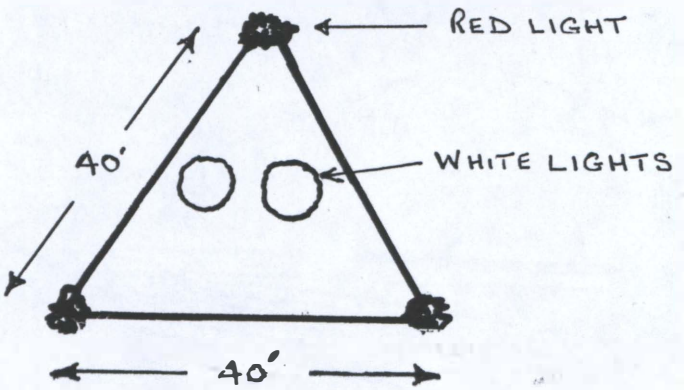
As we were driving in the direction of the lights we gradually drew closer and the lights appeared to be hovering at about 200/300ft to the left of a cottage on the side of the road. At this stage I said to my girlfriend that I was going to see what it was, so I turned down the road leading to the cottage.

I drove down the road at about 10mph and by this time my girlfriend was getting very frightened, but I said that we had just got to find out what it was for ourselves. We got to within about 50/75yds of the object, when I stopped the car and I asked my girlfriend what she could see. At this stage the object was still motionless at a height of about 150/200ft to the left of the cottage.

We both agreed that the object had three small red lights in a triangular formation of about 40ft in diameter, with two round white lights, the size of an old dustbin lid, in the centre of the craft. It was then that a second car that had appeared behind us flashed its lights, as if they had seen something, but I can't be sure.

THEN THE OBJECT STARTED TO MOVE SILENTLY TOWARDS US, at a speed of no more than 20mph, it took 30/45 seconds to cover the 50/75yds before it was directly over our car! At this stage my girlfriend was screaming at me to drive off, but all I could do was to watch it until it went out of my vision from the drivers position and now I started to get very worried.

At this stage I decided to drive off and I asked my girlfriend where it was? She replied that it had gone straight up very high and then had disappeared towards Tansley (N to SW).



A DERBYSHIRE INCIDENT 1993 (Case 93/10)

PRA Investigator: Peter Edwards

This close encounters involved two witnesses A Ms Hayley Richards and her boyfriend Mr John Forde, both of Mickleover, Derby. This report is based on Hayley's description of events:-

I was travelling in a car, NW along Long Lane, Longford, with my boyfriend to attend an 8pm pool match at the Ostrich Inn, a local pub. There were two other vehicles in front of us. It was then that I noticed a very bright round light in the sky, it was exactly the same shape and size as the moon and the same brightness. I knew that it was not the moon, as the moon was over on my left hand side.

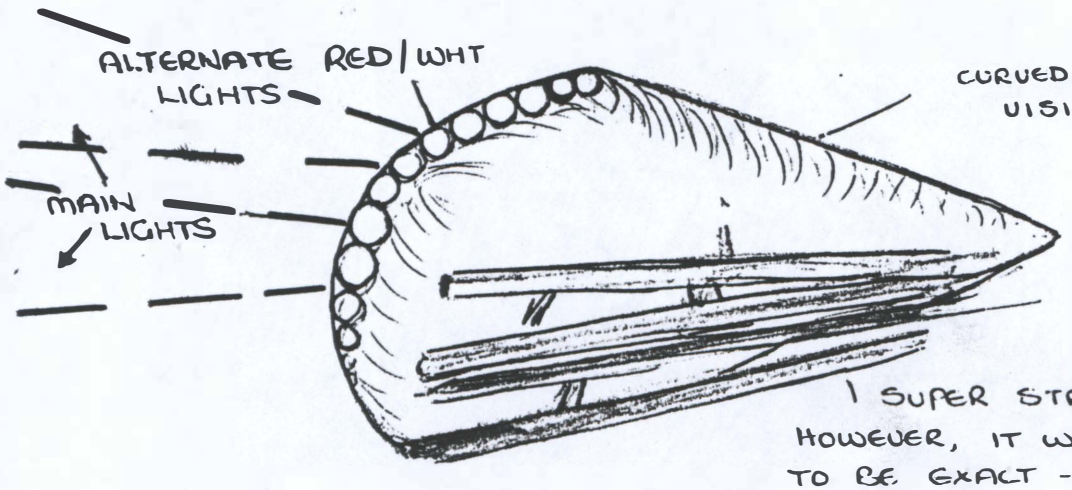
Then as we drove on, the light did not seem to be getting any closer or farther away and at times it appeared to be covered by a faint mist, but the light could still be seen clearly.

As we travelled on, one by one the other cars turned off Long Lane until we were the only vehicle left on the road. We carried on, driving down a small dip in the road and up onto the crest of a hill. When we reached to top of the hill I noticed that the single light had split into two beams, which looked like very bright headlights in the sky.

Then suddenly in what seemed like a split second, the "craft" was right next to us, on my side (L/H) of the car. It was only 50/60ft above us! The we stopped the car at the side of the road so that we could get a better look at the object. The craft was wedge shaped, the main body being black. There appeared to be two floodlights in the middle of the craft towards the front. Alternate red and white lights were spread across the front, there were no other lights visible.

In the shadow of these lights a superstructure was visible underneath the craft, but it was impossible to see this clearly as it was half in shadow. I opened the car window to get a closer look. The craft was not moving at all, but I could hear a faint whooshing noise, but nothing else.

As the Ostrich Inn was only two minutes drive away, we decided to fetch Terry Rodgers the landlord, with his camera. But when we returned the craft had gone!



THE MEDIA STIR'S OLD MEMORIES

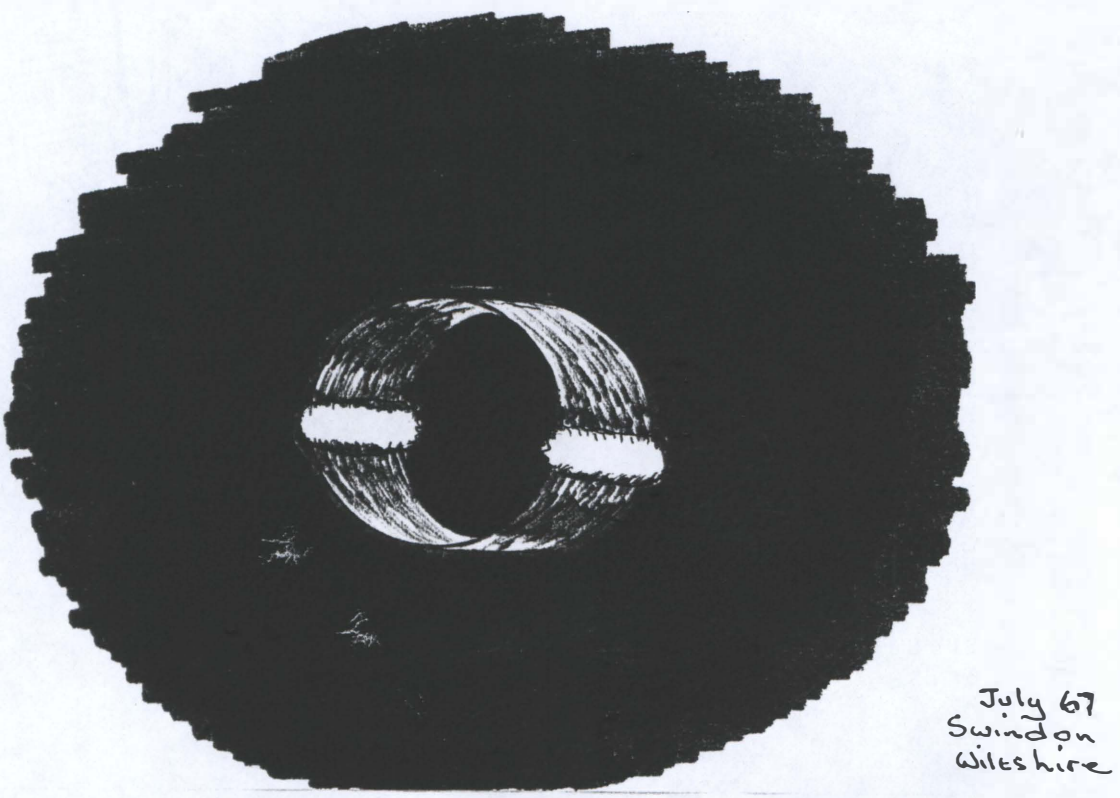
As the result of recent extensive news media coverage of the Flying Triangles and the activities of the Phenomenon Research Association, several UFO incidents from the past have come to light. It appears that witnesses who had either seen/photographed a UFO years ago, did not know who to contact or possibly did not wish to contact anyone about their sighting. Times have changed and this phenomenon is now being treated seriously by the majority of people.

Mr Gordon-Ranford of Alvaston, Derby saw and photographed two unusual UFO's in July 1967. At that time he lived in Swindon, Wiltshire, not too far away from the experimental trials airfield at Boscombe Down.

The witness had walked into his back garden with his Pentax 35mm camera to photograph flowers, when his attention was attracted by a glint of light in the blue sky. He looked up and saw what seemed to be a transparent bubble with two points of light on either side. He quickly set his camera on 'infinity' and had taken one quick shot, when another 'bubble' appeared slightly below the first. Mr G-R took a second photograph of the two objects and then quickly took a third as the two balls flew rapidly away.

There the story might have ended but for the fact that he later moved to Derby and when he saw mention of the UFO activity in the paper, he remembered his three colour slides (now 26 years old). He contacted the PRA and your editor picked up the slides and had them processed and enhanced at the Mullard Imaging & Colour Laboratory at Kimberley, Notts.

Colour prints were made from the slides, but they are not of sufficient clarity to reproduce for the purpose of this newsletter. The "bubble" proved to be a short transparent cylinder with two bright 'neon' type lights down either side. A drawing based on the photograph, of the object(s) is shown below:-



MARCH 16th 1995 - A BUSY TIME FOR UFO's

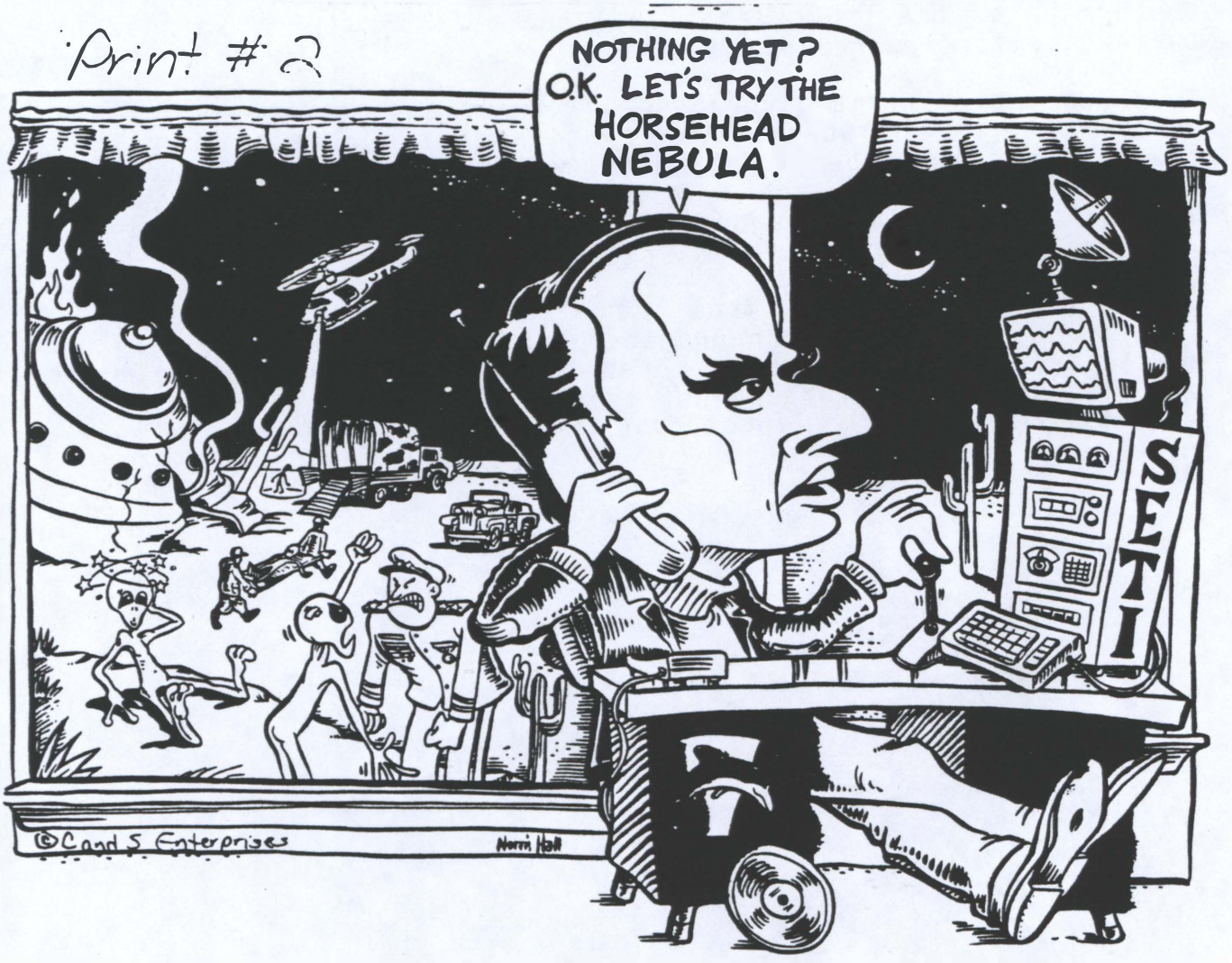
On the above date we had already logged four "Flying Triangle" sightings around the city of Derby. Once again as the result of recent media publicity yet another report has come to light. The area is in the immediate vicinity of an earlier incident (1st & 2nd March) when a Mrs Cooper and her sister saw and video'd a 'LITS' UFO in the same area.

From a Mr "S.F." Derby 7/4/95

On Thursday March 16th between 9pm/9.10pm I was on my way from work. I drove down Osmanston Park Road towards the 'spider bridge' at Allenton. When I reached the bridge I stopped to let traffic pass and I happened to glance upwards and there hovering high over the bridge was the "Triangle" with lights.

I looked and really looked, I know in my mind that I saw it. There were cars behind me and one vehicle to the right of me. I couldn't possibly have been the only person to have seen it (how many times have we heard that? Ed.).

I waited for Friday's "Derby Evening Telegraph" and Saturday's to see if anyone had reported a sighting, but no joy!



An American cartoon from the pen of Norris Hall of C & S Enterprises, depicting Carl Sagan.....

With thanks to Bev D. Wright for sending it in.

CENTRIFUGAL FORCE ENGINE

By John Brickstock

We are always pleased to review interesting new idea's for our reader's comments....

THEORY OF OPERATION.

PROPULSION FOR SPACE CRAFT, MAIN UNIT FOR SINGLE VECTORD THRUST.

A CENTRALLY LOCATED MOTOR/ ATOMIC POWER PLANT. GIVES CLOCKWISE DRIVE TO HYDRUALICALLY — OR ELECTROMAGNETICALLY CONTROLLED WEIGHTS. THESE ARE SHIFTED OFF AXIS BY A TELESCOPIC ARM.

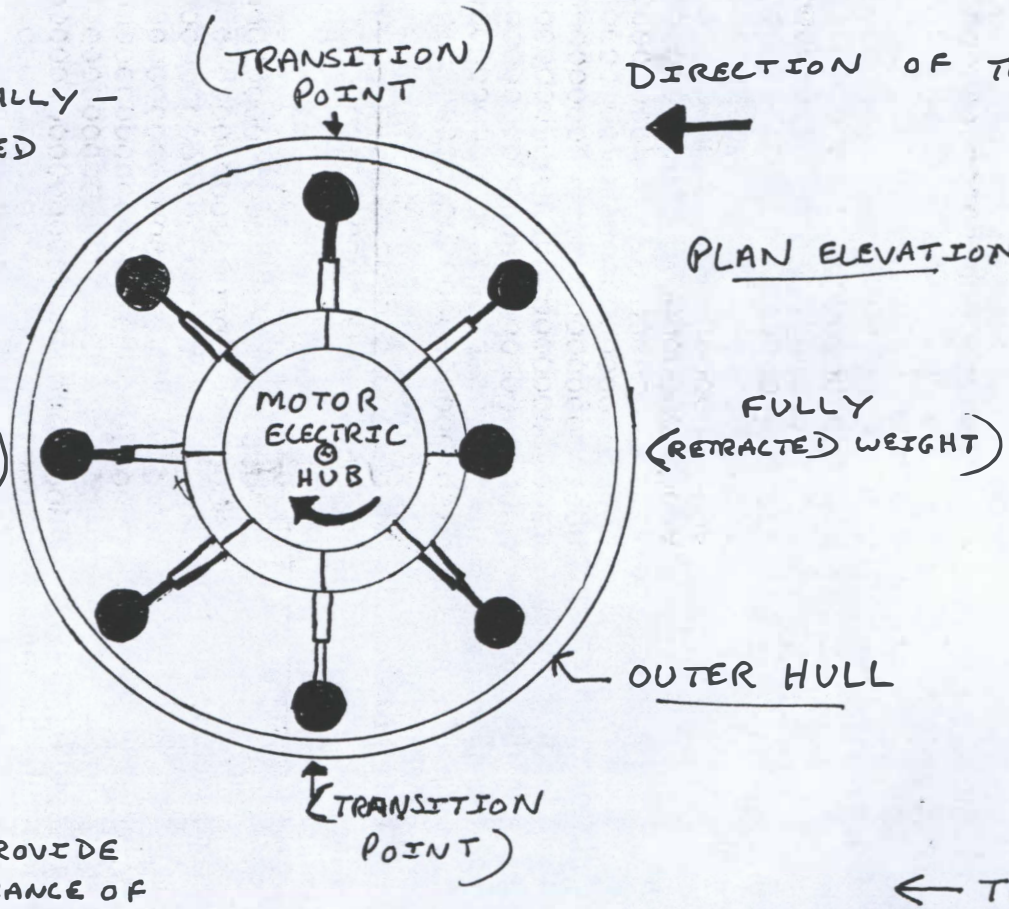
THIS GIVES THE EFFECT OF SHIFTING ITS CENTRE. THEORETICALLY GIVING THRUST.

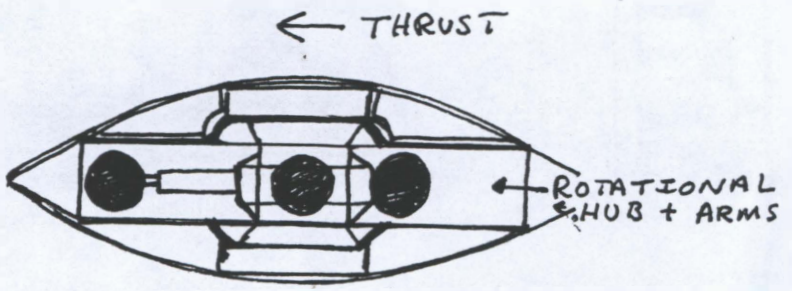
* A BALANCED COUNTER CLOCKWISE WEIGHT COULD BE ADDED TO PREVENT THE WHOLE ASSEMBLY (CRAFT) FROM ROTATING. MATCHING R.P.M. FROM MAIN DRIVE. *

THE UNIT SHOULD CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THRUST UP TO THE MAXIMUM TOLERANCE OF THE TELESOPIC ARMS. THE WHOLE CRAFT VELOCITY = (EINSTIENS SPECIAL RELATIVITY) = MASS = ACCELERATION.

JOHN BRICKSTOCK.

JOHN WOULD WELCOME ANY COMMENTS. PLEASE INCLUDE SAE FOR MORE DETAILS.





SIDE ELEVATION

The Evening Sky

April 1995

A magnificent band of bright stars and constellations run from the southern sky to almost due north in the Spring sky. Canis Major, Orion, Taurus, Perseus and Cassiopeia are lined up in a mighty row for us to gaze at in wonder. Indeed, the Moon isn't the only thing that waxes. Every time Spring comes around I also wax nostalgic when I see once more, the traditional, Spring, mid-night stars.

April is a month of rapid change and dramatic events in the heavens just as it is on Earth. On Earth, the yearly cycle of growth begins, the planting and the warming of the earth. In the heavens, planets are moving swiftly into view.

At nightfall, Mars is still visible in the southern sky though slightly dimmer. We can observe Mars moving away from the star Arcturus and toward the star Regulus. This spectacle results from the Earth leaving Mars ever farther behind in our faster orbit around the Sun.

Jupiter is visible after midnight and remains stationary in the southeastern sky for the rest of the month. Throughout April, Venus appears in the eastern dawn about one hour before the Sun rises. Close by Venus, Saturn keeps appearing sooner and sooner and getting higher and higher. On the morning of April 13th there will be a conjunction (closeness of two planets) of Venus and Saturn. Do not remain snuggled in your thick warm quilt with the central heating clicking on. No! Get out into the morning and observe these two planets. Smell the Spring air and forget about being cozy in your bed.

Pulsars - timekeepers of the Cosmos

I rarely mention the planets Uranus, Neptune and Pluto. This is because they are not visible to the unaided eye. All three planets were discovered in recent times and were unknown to the ancients. Pluto was discovered as late as 1930. To observe these outer planets you will need at least an 8 inch or preferably much larger telescope. All three planets emerge from the glare of the Sun into predawn visibility in April. Uranus and Neptune can be detected low in the southeastern horizon in Sagittarius. Pluto can be found in Libra in the southern sky.

Pulsars are fascinating objects discovered in the 1960's. A pulsar is a neutron star which is spinning very rapidly and regularly. The most famous pulsar is the one associated with the Crab nebula. On July 4th 1054 Chinese astronomers observed a 'new star', visible even in daylight. The star disappeared after 23 days. We know today that their guest star was an exploding star (Supernova) and that the Crab nebula and the pulsar powering the nebula are what remains of the observed star of 1054.

Enjoy Your Evening Sky!

Barry Parkinson

'The Evening Sky' - P.O. Box 4002 - Milton Keynes - MK13 7ER - U.K.

TALE ENDERS

CENTRE FOR CROP CIRCLE STUDIES: EAST MIDLANDS BRANCH is holding a meeting on Tuesday 25th April at 7.30pm Rushcliffe Leisure Centre, Boundary Rd., West Bridgeford. "Sample analysis 1995".

GUATEMALA contact, Dr. Oscar Rafael Padilla Lara has written to us and confirms that they too have "Flying Triangles" buzzing (sorry:humming) around!

FAX'D from Germany today (20th Mar.) from Victor J. Kean, confirms that Flying Triangles are once again invading Belgian air space. More details later we trust!

ROSWELL ALIEN AUTOPSY may be shown on CNN international news on April 28th, according to one of our "sources".

GROOM LAKE may be in the process of moving some of its more sensitive projects to IDAHO. According to the Oklahoma MUFON news (Spring 95) they could be going to the former Atomic Energy installation, now called Idaho National Engineering Laboratory. OVNI published news of this impending move in the Feb. 95 issue (see Tale Enders!) News source: Ken Potts PRA.

EMUFORA (East Midlands UFO Research Assc.) will be holding a meeting at the Old Basford Centre,Davids Lane, Basford, Notts. May 22nd at 7.30pm. Guest speaker Alison Treadwell of CCCS.

UFO CRASH AT ROSWELL (the book by Kevin D. Randle & Donald R.Schmitt) gave a clue to a long held mystery about the interior lighting of "Flying Saucers". Witnesses who claim they have entered into saucer UFO's often mention that there were no 'lights', but there was illumination. On page 95 of the book, Henderson (a military officer) mentioned that metal from the crashed UFO, which appeared to be from the inside of the craft, produced perfect illumination when it was properly energized. It was a soft light with no shadows.

THE UFO ROADSHOW group at Warsop, Notts. (run by Les Trueman) had Omar Fowler as guest speaker at their meeting on 19th April.

CROP CIRCLES formed in 1994 were dowsed and assessed by the well known dowser Michael Newark (Coventry). Michael has sent us a list of all the circles visited by him, together with his verdict. We expect to print this information in our next issue.

MANSFIELD had a bright visitor at 8.55pm on the night of 31st March 95, according to Mrs E.M.Leach. The "bright star" attracted her attention, then as she watched it through binoculars it suddenly shot off' making a loud engine sound!

NEXT PRA MEETING: Tuesday 23rd May. Venue will be notified in May issue of OVNI. There will be no meeting this month (April).

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